

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A radiopaque marker for a medical device, comprising:
a marker, the marker having a length, a thickness and a cross-sectional size selected for attachment to the medical device for providing radiopacity without substantially affecting the flexibility of the medical device;

a polymer;

radiopaque particles disposed within the polymer having an average diameter of at least about 2 microns and a maximum diameter of about 20 microns; and

a wetting agent for facilitating encapsulation of the particles by the polymer, wherein the radiopaque particles include greater than about 91 weight percent of the marker.

Claim 2 (original): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the radiopaque particles comprise about 91-95 weight percent of the marker.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the polymer is selected from a group consisting of [[Pebax]] polyamide copolymers, polyetherurethanes, polyester copolymers, olefin derived copolymers, natural rubbers, synthetic rubbers, thermoplastic elastomers, specialty polymers, polyurethanes, and nylon.

Claim 4 (original): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the radiopaque particles are selected from a group consisting of platinum, gold, iridium, palladium, rhenium, rhodium, tungsten, tantalum, silver and tin.

Claim 5 (original): The radiopaque marker of claim 2, wherein the marker includes a tubular form.

Claims 6-23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the particles are of equiaxed shape.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the wetting agent includes a surfactant.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the wetting agent includes a coupling agent.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, further comprising an antioxidant.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the radiopaque marker forms an extrusion coating.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, further comprising a coating.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 1, wherein the marker is attached to a medical device.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 30, wherein the medical device is a stent, a guide wire, a balloon or an embolic filter.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A radiopaque marker for a medical device, comprising:
a marker, the marker having a length, a thickness and a cross-sectional size selected for attachment to the medical device for providing radiopacity without substantially affecting the flexibility of the medical device;

a polymer;

radiopaque particles disposed within the polymer; and

an agent facilitating adhesion between the polymer and radiopaque particles.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, wherein the particles have an average diameter of at least 2 microns and a maximum diameter of 20 microns.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, wherein the radiopaque particles include greater than about 91 weight percent of the marker.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, wherein the particles are of equiaxed shape.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, wherein the ~~wetting~~ agent includes a surfactant.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, wherein the ~~wetting~~ agent includes a coupling agent.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, further comprising an antioxidant.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, wherein the radiopaque marker forms an extrusion coating.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The radiopaque marker of claim 32, wherein the radiopaque marker forms an exterior coating.